

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 12 and 13 and amend the remaining claims as follows:

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1. (Amended) A mouthguard of generally "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion and two arms diverging rearwardly from the front portion, the mouthguard being of a "U-shaped" transverse cross-section so as to provide an inner and an outer flange joined by a base, wherein said base has a lower surface providing a lower occlusal table which is generally perpendicular to the inner flange.

2. (Amended) A mouthguard of generally "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion and two arms diverging rearwardly from the front portion, the mouthguard being of a "U-shaped" transverse cross-section so as to provide an inner and an outer flange joined by a base, wherein said base has an upper occlusal table which is inclined to the inner flange by an angle of between 100 and 120 degrees.

3. (Amended) A mouthguard of generally "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion and two arms diverging rearwardly from the front portion, the mouthguard being of a "U-shaped" transverse cross-section so as to provide an inner and an outer flange joined by a base, wherein the mouthguard includes a thickened portion of said outer flange being provided across said front portion so as to provide a labial shield.

✓ 4. (Amended) A mouthguard of generally "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion and two arms diverging rearwardly from the front portion, the mouthguard being of a "U-shaped" transverse cross-section so as to provide an inner and an outer flange joined by a base, wherein the base has a lower surface provided with a shield adjacent the outer flange extending substantially along each arm.

39 ✓ 5. (Amended) A mouthguard of generally "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion and two arms diverging rearwardly from the front portion, the mouthguard being of a "U-shaped" transverse cross-section so as to provide an inner and an outer flange joined by a base, wherein said base has an upper surface, with the forward portion thereof being raised relative to arm portions thereof.

✓ 6. (Amended) A mouthguard of generally "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion and two arms diverging rearwardly from the front portion, the mouthguard being of a "U-shaped" transverse cross-section so as to provide an inner and an outer flange joined by a base, wherein the mouthguard includes a body of a "C-shaped" configuration, with said arms having end extremities, said mouthguard further including a labial shield embedded in said front portion and extending therefrom through the arms to adjacent extremities thereof, said body and shield being formed of plastics material, with said shield being more rigid than said body.

310
9. (Amended) A mouthguard of generally "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion and two arms diverging rearwardly from the front portion, the mouthguard being of a "U-shaped" transverse cross-section so as to provide an inner and an outer flange joined by a base, wherein internal surfaces of the body are provided with deformable key means to engage a mouldable material to be received within the body, the key means being plastically deformable to retain the mouldable material.

10. (Amended) The mouthguard body of claim 9, wherein means comprises deformable projections.

Add the following new claims:

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311
18. (New) The mouthguard of claim 1, wherein the base has an upper occusal table which is inclined with respect to the inner flange by an angle of between 100 and 120 degrees.

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19. (New) The mouthguard of claim 1, wherein said outer flange includes a thickened portion at said front portion.

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20. (New) The mouthguard of claim 1, wherein said base has a lower surface provided with a shield adjacent to the outer flange, said shield extending substantially along each said arm.

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21. (New) The mouthguard of claim 1, wherein said base has an upper surface with a forward portion raised relative to arm portions thereof.

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22. (New) The mouthguard of claim 1, including a body with said "C-shaped" configuration, said arms having end extremities, said mouthguard further including a labial shield embedded in said front portion and extending therefrom along the arms to the extremities thereof, said body and shield being formed of plastic material, with said shield being more rigid than said body.

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23. (New) The mouthguard of claim 22, wherein the shield is a single piece.

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24. (New) The mouthguard of claim 22, wherein said shield is formed of a set of shield members including a front part embedded in said front portion, and two rear parts separate from the front part, each rear part being located in a respective one of the arms:

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25. (New) The mouthguard of claim 1, wherein internal surfaces of the body are provided with deformable key means to engage a mouldable material to be received within the body, said key means being plastically deformed to retain the mouldable material in the body.

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26. (New) The mouthguard of claim 25, wherein said deformable

projections are located on said base.

27. (New) The mouthguard having a mouthguard body according to claim 26 and including said mouldable material within the mouthguard body.

28. (New) The mouthguard of claim 27, wherein said projections are deformed to engage the mouldable material.

29. (New) The mouthguard of claim 28, wherein said mouldable material is vinyl containing polydimethylsiloxane.

30. (New) The mouthguard of claim 29, wherein said mouthguard body is formed of an EVA copolymer.

31. (New) The mouthguard of claim 26, wherein said deformable key means comprises hollow projections of a generally cylindrical configuration.

32. (New) The mouthguard of claim 18, wherein said outer flange includes a thickened portion at said front portion.

33. (New) The mouthguard of claim 32, wherein the base has a lower surface provided with a shield adjacent to the outer flange, said shield extending substantially along each said arm.